

Squatter Sovereign.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO POLITICS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, MERCANTILE AFFAIRS AND USEFUL READING.

STRINGFELLOW & KELLEY,

"The Squatter claims the same Sovereignty in the Territories that he possessed in the States."

EDITORS & PROPRIETORS.

VOL. 1. ATCHISON, KANSAS TERRITORY, TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1855.

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The Squatter Sovereign.

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RATES OF ADVERTISING.

For one square, twelve lines or less, \$1.00. Each additional insertion, per square, 50 cents. For one square, twelve lines or less, 4.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 7.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 10.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 13.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 16.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 19.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 22.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 25.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 28.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 31.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 34.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 37.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 40.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 43.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 46.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 49.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 52.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 55.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 58.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 61.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 64.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 67.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 70.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 73.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 76.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 79.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 82.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 85.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 88.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 91.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 94.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 97.00. For one square, twelve lines or less, 100.00.

Announcing Candidates for office, in advance, \$5. If inserted on credit, candidates will be charged eight dollars. Communications of a personal nature, will be inserted as advertisements, and charged for at the rates of \$2.00 per square, and payment required in advance.

Advertisements marked on the copy for a specific number of insertions, will be continued until ordered out, and payment exacted accordingly.

All advertisements must be paid for in advance, or at the expiration of three months.

All letters addressed to the Editors must be POST PAID, to receive attention.

The Law of Newspapers.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered as wishing to continue their subscription.
2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their periodicals, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their periodicals from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible, till they have settled the bill and ordered their discontinuance.
4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publisher, and the papers are sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.
5. The Courts have decided that refusing to take periodicals from the office, or removing and leaving them uncollected for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

The Poet's Column.

GENIUS.

Suggested by an incident which transpired at the Natural Bridge, in Virginia, as related by Mr. Elihu Burritt.

BY MRS. M. A. BIGLOW.

'Twas mid day o'er that mighty arch,
Which nature's hand hath framed,
And far beneath the Cedar Creek,
Then in the sun-light damed.

In the rough canal there below
Three rosy children stood;
Uncovered was each thoughtful brow,
Beside the weeping flood.

Lo! now, with earnest, earnest eye,
They read, in letters deep,
Name after name, engraven
Along the rocky steep.

At once they climbed that jutting rock,
Which might the bravest dare,
And in rude letters carved their names
Deep in the limestone there.

They all descend again, save one—
Which might the bravest dare,
And in rude letters carved their names
Deep in the limestone there.

The name of one to freedom dear,
Our Country's noble son—
"My humble name, I'll write it there,
By that of WASHINGTON."

'Tis done—yet upward, onward still
That boy pursues his flight,
Till from an opening o'er his head
Rushes a stronger light.

Many have gathered hastily
To see the hero's deed,
And hear the voice of praise,
Or cry of faint despair.

But still he heeds the vast ascent,
Beyond the reach of aid;
Still for his patient, tireless feet,
Niche after niche is made.

He pauses—turns a look beneath:
What arm can save him now?
A dizziness comes o'er his brain—
A paleness o'er his brow.

The father's hand a strong noose flings
From o'er the archway there:
A moment, and that slight form swings
Suspended in the air!

And now the parent clasps his child,
With tones of transport loud,
While mingled shouts of rapture swell
From the assembled crowd.

Is it not thus with those who climb
The dangerous heights of Fame—
To write imperishable there
A name, an humble name?

Genius must never slack his course,
Or pause to look beneath:
One reckless glance at perilous things
May bring impending death;

Unless, thou ventures boy, like thine,
His Father's hand o'er him,
Send succor from the arch of Heaven,
And take his child above.

And the man who had no music in his
Sole worn season leather.

Miscellaneous.

Written for Ballou's Pictorial.

THE POISONED DRAUGHT.

BY GEORGE F. BURNHAM.

"As surely as I now speak this sentence,

Alfo, so surely will I wed her," exclaimed a fiery-tempered Spaniard to his companion, at the conclusion of their interview, one clear starry evening.

"You promise well, Pierre," responded his friend; "but it is one thing to threaten, and quite another affair to get rid of the wily and handsome Englishman."

"We shall see, then," replied Pierre; "we shall see anon," and the friends separated for the night.

The Englishman thus alluded to was the oldest son of a rich gentleman of Sussex, who was then abroad, making a tour of Europe. Ellis Mendon was twenty-four years old, and had met the daughter of a wealthy Spaniard at Madrid, some four months previously, of whom he became enamored at first sight. The lady's name was Estelle, and her father, Don Sebastian Morelle, was the descendant of an ancient and honored family in Spain.

Pierre Souall was a high strung-fellow, valiant, determined, desperate in his likes or dislikes, and a young man who was not easily turned from his purpose, albeit he was occasionally extravagant and unreasonable in his follies. In the present instance, he had long been the favored acquaintance of the Morelle family, and was as deeply in love with the old don's daughter as it was possible for such a tempered man conveniently to be. From the fact that he had known Estelle for many years, and had long intended, at some time or other, to declare himself (in the confident expectation that the young lady could not refuse an alliance with him), and, moreover, entertaining a determination that no rival—much less a foreigner, should ever displace him, he was not a little piqued when he suddenly learned that Mendon had forestalled him in Estelle's favor, and was actually her accepted lover.

The threat he made to his companion Alfo was a serious one, and he resolved to carry it out, at any hazard. His first business was, however, to get rid of Mendon; then he believed he could execute his object the more readily with Estelle. But how was this to be accomplished?

He could challenge the Englishman, he thought, with or without a cause. He could insult him, and thus bring about a meeting, and slay the foreigner. This was promising, but for one simple reason. He had learned the character and antecedents of his rival, and he knew him to be a most adroit and accomplished swordsman—Might not the chances be thus against him? For, to tell the truth, Pierre Souall was not skilled in the use of the rapier. He could waylay him, and the poignard would finish his business, neatly and effectually. This would do, admirably, only that Mendon rarely exposed himself after nightfall, and always went well armed. Pierre imagined that he might thus come off only "second-best," and at this suggestion, he concluded to think it over a little, though not in accordance with his usual custom, in cases where he was so particularly and personally interested.

While the envious and unscrupulous rival contemplated upon the probability of his chances of success with Estelle, and the likelihood of his triumph over Mendon, he learned that the Englishman was to be present at a supper, on the third day afterwards, at the residence of a friend of his own, where Estelle, too, was to be a guest. Here was the opportunity for the certain accomplishment of his will; stealthily, surely, and all unexpectedly. It was an easy matter, in Madrid, to procure a subtle poison, and Pierre Souall went to the evening feast prepared to finish his rival, who entertained not the slightest suspicion of the Spaniard's feelings, or of his designs against him.

The bells of the feast was the delightful and always charming Lady Estelle, whose beauty and grace of manner had long come to be known in the fashionable circles of the Spanish capital. Since it was current that she was the affianced of the gentlemanly and generous Englishman, more than one of the sons of the lordly nobles who had flitted about her, had envied his enjoyment; but none were so bitter as was Pierre Souall, who had secretly resolved upon the foreigner's death, and the gaining of Estelle's hand subsequently.

The fair lady was not ignorant of Pierre's passion for her, and she was also thoroughly conversant with his desperate character. She was not aware that the hot-headed Spaniard would be present at the entertainment which she purposed to grace, in company with her English friend, against whom she was aware that Pierre cherished an unqualified and vengeful antipathy. But she met him there, and she read in his settled hauteur and callous expression a dangerous threatening foreboding, which she did not forget for a single moment to watch with the utmost care and scrutiny, without affecting to observe either his appearance or his conduct during the evening.

"A gallant pair, upon my honor!" said Alfo to young Souall, as Mendon passed down the saloon with the lovely Estelle hanging gracefully on the arm of her affianced.

"Live while you may," he said, mentally, as the handsome couple moved away, all unaware of the villainous scheme he secretly harbored in his wicked heart. "Enjoy your present opportunity—it is brief! The sun that shines on the morrow, my fair-faced Briton, will illumine your pathway peradventure—but so if there be virtue in the draught you will quaff at midnight, three hours hence. And you," he continued bitterly, "you, my idol, my lovely but scornful beauty, you will yet be mine—mine! Maligne your present will to the contrary."

A moment afterward, Alfo approached him again. "Estelle is monopolized to-night," he said. "She declines me in the waltz, Pierre. Twice have I ventured to solicit the pleasure and twice she refused me!"

"So she has me!" said Souall, sarcastically; "but not twice. I craved the honor once, and she was engaged. Look you, Alfo," he exclaimed, pointing to the waltzers. "I faith she is a very sylph. See, how she bounds and skims the floor, supported in the arms of her English friend. By St. Mare, this is too much!"

"There is no help for it, good Pierre," responded his friend. "She favors him, and what should you care? A hundred ladies, as fair, surround us. See the beautiful Manco's daughter, by her side, and the dark-eyed countess on her right, too!"

"Pshaw! Alf—have I not eyes? Can I not see? Do I not know—and you, as well—that there is put one belle here?"

"Yes; but—"

"Ah, Alfo do you remember my promise?"

"To wed her?"

"Ay," said Souall, proudly.

"Well, what of that?"

"Nothing, now. You shall see."

Before midnight, Pierre had wrought himself into a fury of determined revenge upon the unconscious Mendon, whose life he had resolved upon taking; and when the signal for supper came, the jealous Spaniard thrust himself as near to Estelle and her betrothed as possible, at table.

But her English friend was all good natured and generous affability—contented with the prize he had so nearly gained, and as happy as a prince, in the enjoyment of the smiles of the fair creature to whom he was so ardently devoted, and who loved him in return, with earnest preference. Amid all the enjoyment and hilarity of the occasion, however, a singular premonition had taken possession of the heart of Estelle, and she kept a steady eye upon the movements of Pierre, whom she suspected of mischievous designs.

The feast was a rare one; course after course came and disappeared. Soft music from the balconies of the elegant mansion of the host swelled upon the midnight breeze, the company were at the height of enjoyment, the wine had begun to circulate freely, and young Pierre Souall had already imbibed his full hore of the seductive liquid, when he bethought him that the moment had arrived for the completion of his cursed plot for his rival's destruction.

He had provided himself duly with a subtle and fearful liquid poison, a drop of which once in the human stomach, would, "though he had the strength of twenty men," despatch the drinker straight.

Drawing from his vesture a diminutive phial, he forced out the cork, to which was attached a small piece of sponge saturated with this fatal poison, and watching his opportunity, when the guests were in the height of their merriment, he placed the sponge at the mouth of a bottle of choice Burgundy near him, pressed out the liquid, and as skillfully replaced the little phial and cork in his pocket again. The movement was seen by the watchful Estelle, and she continued to eye the subsequent acts of Pierre Souall with unflinching eagerness.

He was too deeply in his cups to observe that he was noticed, at all, and hailing an attendant, he handed him the bottle, partially filling his own goblet first from another source.

The attendant placed the poisoned wine at the Briton's elbow, with the compliments of Signor Souall, when Estelle, as quick as thought, exclaimed to Pierre: "Signor, to the right—see!"

Pierre quickly turned his head, to ascertain what was at "the right," to cause this sudden remark of the lady, when Estelle as quickly changed the positions of the two decanters that stood in front of her lover (which were precisely alike, and of deeply colored glass), thus setting aside the poisoned liquor, and leaving in its stead a bottle that Pierre supposed to be the same he had sent to Mendon, when he turned his head back again.

What is it, my lady?" said the Spaniard.

"Nothing, nothing, signor," said Estelle; "it is passed now," and the Spaniard being intent upon his purpose, said to Mendon: "Signor, your health!"

Mendon filled his goblet from his own bottle, and returning the compliment in form, took the poisoned wine and sent it down by the attendant, supposing (as did the Spaniard, also) that it was his decanter.

Pierre Souall finished filling his glass from the wine he had prepared for his rival, and added:

"Mendon—a bumper. To the bottom, signor, to the bottom!" And the villain drank his potion to the dregs, as he observed his rival turn up his glass, in acknowledgment of Pierre's supposed sincerity.

Five minutes later, the guests nearest the young Spaniard were affrighted at his sudden pallor.

"Air, Alfo—sir—I suffo—air!" yelled Pierre, and he was quickly borne up upon the piazza.

A physician was soon summoned, for it was evident that the attack was no ordinary fainting fit. When that gentleman arrived, however, Pierre Souall was stone dead! It was clear that he had been poisoned, too! And an active search was instituted, forthwith, to learn how this had occurred. In his vest pocket was soon discovered the empty phial. The liquid that still remained in the bit of sponge was examined, and found to be a terribly active poison. It was clear to all that Pierre Souall had committed suicide! A post mortem examination confirmed this hypothesis, for the same liquid was subsequently found in his stomach.

Estelle had no wish to make matters worse by asserting what she knew of the affair. She contrived to keep the knowledge she possessed a secret for several years afterwards; and within six months from the evening when her lover came so near his end, through the miserable treachery of her countryman, and his rival, she became the wife of Ellis Mendon.

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A BASE CALUNNY.—In a recent article Doesticks says:

"City girls are such touch-me-not creatures that no one, understanding the nature of the animal, would venture on a kiss, unless he wanted to get his mouth full of magnesia and carmine."

The wife of a colonel, at review in Dublin was stopped by a sentry, and told him she was "the colonel's lady." "No matter for that, ma'am," said the sentry, "if you were his wife, you could not pass."

A police officer in Syracuse, who has a lot of Shanghai chickens, which he don't care about supporting during the present high price of grain, advertises them as stolen property, hoping some one will come forward and claim them.

Subscribe for the Squatter Sovereign.

BY AUTHORITY.

Laws of the United States.

[Public 84.] AN ACT to establish certain post-roads. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That the following be established as post-roads:

MAINE. From the city of Gardiner, via West Gardiner, Litchfield, Monmouth and Wales, to Sabattusville, in the town of Webster, there to connect with the existing route to Lewiston.

From Liberty, in Clay county, via Gilead meeting-house and Wm. Atchison's to Plattsburg, Clinton county, there to connect with a mail-route to Lewiston.

From Bangor, in the county of Penobscot, via Hermon, to North Carmel.

From West Trenton, in the county of Hancock, via the Shore road, Eden, Salisbury's cove and Hull's cove, to East Eden.

From Bangor, in the county of Penobscot, via Bremer Village, East Orrington, the house of Ephraim Goodale, jr., the Hervey settlement and Buck's mill, to Buckport Village, in the county of Hancock.

From Bangor, via Brown Village P. O., East Orrington P. O., the house of Ephraim Goodale, jr., Shelden Harriman, Hervey Settlement, and Buck's mill, to Buckport Village.

From West Lebanon, York county, to Great Falls, New Hampshire.

From Alfred, via Waterboro' Centre to Bar Mills (Hollis).

From East Newport, Penobscot county, via Stetson to Exeter in said county.

From East Machias, via Plantation No. 14, to Cooper.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. From West Rumney, via a corner of Groton, Cheever's Corner in Dorchester and the River Road to East Canaan.

From West Rumney, via the southeasterly part of Wentworth, North Dorchester and Dorchester Centre, to East Canaan.

NEW YORK. From Bedford, via Harris' mill, Union Falls, and Bloomingdale, to Saranac lakes.

From Lewiston, via Dickinsonville, to Cambridge.

From Groton, in Tompkins county, to Cortland Village, Cortland county.

From Lisle, Broome county, via East Berkshire and Wilson creek, to Newkirk Valley, Tioga county.

From Ketchikanville, Tioga county, to Newark Valley, being an extension of the present route from Maine to Ketchikanville.

From Prattsburg, in the county of Steuben, via Riken's mill, to North Colton.

From Dryden, via Hanford, to Killbuck and from Dryden to Marathon.

From the village of Woodhull, via East Troupsburg, to Troupsburg Centre.

From Frontier P. O., Clinton county, to Chubbuck P. O. on the line of the northern railroad.

From Randolph in Cattaraugus county by way of Gettysburg, to Cattaraugus P. O. (station) on N. Y. & E. R. R.

NEW JERSEY. From Freehold via Colli's Neck, Tinton Falls and Eatontown, to Long Branch, Monmouth county.

PENNSYLVANIA. From East Berlin, via King's Tavern and Farmer's Post Office, to York.

From Lancaster, via Newville, Litz, Durack, Schoenbeck, Reinholdsville and Sinking Springs, to Reading.

From Selingsgrove, via Middle creek hotel, to Middleburg, in Union county.

From Marchand to Newman's mills, Indiana county.

From Mitchell's mills to Newman's mills, Indiana county.

From Levensburg, Warren county, Pennsylvania, to East Randolph, in Cattaraugus county, New York.

From Clearfield Bridge, on the Erie Turnpike, to Ansonville, in New Washington.

From Warren, Warren county, via the Jackson Ran and Chandler's Valley to Sugar Grove.

From Eden, in the county of McKean, to Littleton.

From Clearfield Borough, via Bold Hills, Franklin, Karlsruhe, Salt Lick, and Buck Island, to the mouth of the Sinnamahoning creek.

From Shrewsbury Station on the Northern Central railroad, via Plank road, Shrewsbury and Meadstown, to Mitzell mill, thence via County road and Strawbridge's store, to Farm Grove meeting-house.

From Selingsgrove to Middleburg, Union Co. From Waynesburg, Green county, via Hunter's Lane, Harvey's, Windridge, and Ryerson's station, Pennsylvania, and Rock Lick, Virginia, to Cameron station, Marshall county, Virginia.

From Spring Forge to Colonus, thence via County road and Newman's mills, Indiana county.

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